

# **CITY OF TUCSON FIRE DEPARTMENT CERTIFIED SHOOTER CARD PROGRAM**

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of these procedures is to clarify requirements for a Tucson Fire Department Certified Shooter Card for fireworks, pyrotechnics, and flame effects before a proximate audience.

## **APPLICABILITY**

This procedure shall apply to anyone conducting fireworks, pyrotechnics, and flame effects before a proximate audience within the City of Tucson.

The Tucson Fire Department Certified Shooter Card is a required certification in the City of Tucson to conduct any fireworks, pyrotechnics, or flame effects. Before applying for an operational permit to conduct fireworks, pyrotechnics, or flame effects an operator must have a current Tucson Fire Department Certified Shooter Card. All applicable Federal, State and local regulations will also apply.

## **FEES**

There are currently no fees for the Certified Shooter Card.

## **DEFINITIONS**

Terms used are as defined in the following National Fire Protection (NFPA) Standards: NFPA 1123, Code for Fireworks Display, 2006 edition; NFPA 1124, Code for the Manufacture, Transportation, and Storage of Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles, 2006 edition; NFPA 1126 Standard for the Use of Pyrotechnics before a Proximate Audience, 2006 edition; NFPA 160, Standard for the Use of Flame Effects Before an Audience, 2006 edition; Chapter 33 and Chapter 38 of the International Fire Code, 2006 edition with local modifications.

## **GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS**

### **APPLICATIONS**

Application for a Certified Shooter Card shall be made in person at the Tucson Fire Prevention Center 797 E. Ajo Way, Tucson, AZ 85713; phone 520-791-4502.

Application for a Certified Shooter Card requires a personal resume. The resume must attest to at least 2 years experience as a shooter or assistant on at least 8 displays and include any industry training and any other experience. Adequacy of qualifications for issuing a Certified Shooter Card shall be determined by the Tucson Fire Department.

The resume must also contain a minimum of three letters of reference from persons not related to the applicant. References shall be from persons certified for fireworks, pyrotechnics, or flame effects by a recognized and approved regulatory authority. References may be contacted by the Tucson Fire Department for verification.

Descriptions of work shall specify location, employer, supervisor's name, tasks performed, and type of effects used.

### **EXAMINATION**

After review and acceptance of the resume, applicants must pass a pre-scheduled written examination with a minimum score of 80% administered by the Tucson Fire Department. The exam is based on NFPA 1123, 2006 edition; NFPA 1124, 2006 edition; NFPA 1126, 2006 edition; NFPA 160, 2006 edition; Chapter 33 and Chapter 38 of the International Fire Code with local amendments, and the Tucson Fire Department online website information.

An applicant who has failed the written exam may schedule to re-take the exam as follows:

A second exam shall be scheduled no sooner than 14 days from the date of the first exam. An applicant who does not pass the exam on the second attempt shall not be allowed to re-take the exam for a minimum of six (6) months.

### **INTERVIEW**

After successful completion of the written exam, an interview will be held. The interview panel will be composed of three people and may consist of the Tucson Fire Captain in charge of hazardous materials, and two others to be appointed by the Fire Marshal. Questions will be based on the exam material, past experience, and pertinent related industry information.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

The applicant shall present evidence of their qualifications for the Certified Shooter Card as follows:

The applicant shall be a minimum of 21 years of age and have at least two years experience as either a shooter or assistant on at least 8 displays with another certified operator or shooter.

## **INSPECTION**

The Certified Shooter Card may be subject to inspection by authorized Tucson Fire Department personnel for all displays.

## **PROHIBITION**

A Certified Shooter Card is not transferable.

## **DENIAL**

A Certified Shooter Card shall not be issued when it is known or there is reason to believe that an applicant:

- A. Is under indictment;
- B. Was convicted in court of a felony or crime of moral turpitude within the last 7 years;
- C. Is a fugitive of justice;
- D. Is an unlawful user of, or under the influence of intoxicants, narcotics, or other dangerous drugs or controlled substances;
- E. Was adjudicated as a mental defective or was committed to a mental institution;
- F. Used false or misleading statements or misrepresentation of facts.

## **VALIDITY**

Certified Shooter Cards are valid for two (3) years from date of issue.

## **SUSPENSION OF CERTIFICATE OF FITNESS CARD**

The Tucson Fire Department may suspend a Certified Shooter Card at any time for cause.

Suspension may result by recommendation of a fire authority in another jurisdiction. Within 5 days of an incident, or action, the fire authority must forward a written report citing the specific reasons for the recommendation to the Tucson Fire Department Fire Prevention Section for review.

A cardholder will receive written notice of suspension by mail to the last address provided to the Tucson Fire Department. The written notice will include the reason(s) for the suspension of the Certified Shooter Card.

A notice of suspension requires the cardholder to surrender their Certified Shooter Card to the Tucson Fire Department Fire Prevention Section no later than five business days after the receipt of the written notice.

If the cardholder wishes to appeal the suspension of the Certified Shooter Card, the appeals process, as outlined in the Tucson Fire Code, shall be followed.

Failure to surrender a Certified Shooter Card within five business days shall result in the revocation of the card without the right to appeal the action.

The cardholder will be notified of the final action of the Tucson Fire Department by certified letter.

## **REVOCATION OF CERTIFIED SHOOTER CARD**

The Tucson Fire Department may revoke a Certified Shooter Card at any time for cause

A card may be revoked if a person makes any intentional misstatement or misrepresentation, or falsifies training records or signatures on an application for a Certified Shooter Card.

Revocation of a Certified Shooter Card will prohibit any application for a new card for a period of two years from date of revocation.

## **LOCAL REQUIREMENTS**

Any unexploded aerial shells or live components found during or after the display shall not be approached or handled until at least 1 hour has elapsed from the time the shells were fired. Any unexploded aerial shells or live components become the responsibility of the TPD Bomb Squad. Shells that fail to lift from the mortar shall be considered misfires and shall be evaluated by the operator prior to any action taken. Shells that explode inside the mortar shall be evaluated by the fire code official, the TPD Bomb Squad and the operator prior to any action taken.

Revised 07/13/2006